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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY **Syria**DATE DISTR. **5 April 1951**SUBJECT **Communist Participation in
Demonstrations against General Robertson**NO. OF PAGES **1**PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1ANO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1XSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

1. The Regional Committees of the Syrian Communist Party received instructions from Khalid Bakdash to issue tracts and pamphlets all over the country calling on the population to demonstrate against the visit of General Robertson to Damascus on 6-9 February 1951.
2. The Syrian Communist Party is said [REDACTED] to have been informed of the visit well in advance and was thus able to make its plans in good time. Pamphlets were distributed mainly among the students, and tracts were pasted on walls throughout Damascus and in the principal towns in Syria.
3. Yusuf Faysal, now acting as joint head with Bahjat Bakdash of the Damascus Regional Committee, was instructed to write a pamphlet denouncing the Syrian Government for allowing the visit to take place and a similar pamphlet was to be issued by the Lebanese Communist Party in Beirut.
4. The student demonstrators, who had one serious clash with the Police in Damascus, were mainly supporters of the Arab Resurrection Party and were principally members of the Greek Orthodox School from the Christian quarter of Bab Tuma. The Communists, as in the past, aided and abetted the demonstrations but their student leaders, such as Yusuf Faysal, kept well in the background and no well-known Communists figured on the list of those who were arrested.

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Document No. **6**
 No Change in Class. ☐
☐ Declassified
 Class. Changed To: **T3 S 6**
 Auth: **HR 70-2**
 Date: **28 AUG 1978** By: **24**

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